Secretary level talks with Pakistan

1927. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether involvement of Pakistan during recent attacks in Mumbai on 26th November has affected the process of Secretary level and Home Ministry level talks between India and Pakistan;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government of Pakistan;

(c) whether full evidence has been conveyed to Pakistan that these extremists were trained by ISI and also have been given protection for safe landing in India; and

(d) if so, the action Government proposes to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) The involvement of elements in Pakistan in terrorism in India has been a factor overshadowing the overall context and content of Indo-Pak relations for a long time and has undermined progress in the bilateral dialogue process.

(c) The High Commissioner of Pakistan was called to the Ministry of External Affairs on 1st December 2008 and was informed that the recent terrorist attack on Mumbai was carried out by elements from Pakistan. Government expects that strong action would be taken against those elements, whosoever they may be, responsible for this outrage. It was conveyed to the Pakistan High Commissioner that Pakistan's actions needed to match the sentiments expressed by its leadership that it wishes to have a qualitatively new relationship with India.

(d) Government is determined to take whatever measures are necessary in order to ensure the safety and security of our citizens.

Deportation of Indian workers from Oman

1928. SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Oman has decided to deport nearly 3,500 Indian workers who overstayed in the country after the expiry of their visas;

(b) if so, whether the Oman Ministry has published a list of 3,497 Indians in a newspaper asking them to cooperate with authorities to facilitate their repatriation;

(c) whether the Indian Government has taken up this issue with the Oman Government;

(d) if so, the number of Indians who have so far been deported from Oman; and

(e) the steps being considered to see that such situation does not arise in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) and (b) An exercise on the part of the Government of the Sultanate of Oman to identify and repatriate overstaying Indian nationals is going on, under which the local